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INCOMING TELEGRAM

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FROM: NEW YORK

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TO: Secretary of State

NO: 1637, NOVEMBER 5, 8 PM

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR

REVIEWED BY 4/1/68 DATE 11/6/88

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CUBA LA MTG

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STEVENSON BRIEFED LA AMBASSADORS TODAY ALONG LINES REVIEWED WITH MARTIN THIS MORNING. DURING DISCUSSION AND AFTER, FOL EMERGED AS PRINCIPAL CONCERNS LAS:

1) ASSUMING END OF IMMEDIATE PROBLEM THROUGH REMOVAL OFFENSIVE WEAPONS AND VERIFICATION, WHAT WILL THE POSITION OF CUBA BE? MANY SEEM TO FEAR THAT CASTRO WILL BE STRENGTHENED TO EXTENT HE MAY BE PROTECTED BY A "NO INVASION" GUARANTEE. THEY THEREFORE KEENLY INTERESTED IN EXTENT AND MEANING THIS GUARANTEE AND ANY LA INVOLVEMENT THEREIN. RE LATTER POINT STEVENSON SAID THAT WHILE KENNEDY OFFER COULD NOT COMMIT OTHER GOVTS, SOME NEW STATEMENT BY OAS IN THIS CONTEXT MAY EVENTUALLY PROVE NECESSARY. SEVERAL POINTED OUT THAT US GUARANTEE IS RELATED TO FULL COMPLIANCE WITH SOV UNDERTAKINGS, WHICH INCLUDED ADEQUATE VERIFICATION UNDER UN SUPERVISION. IF THIS IS REFUSED BY CASTRO, WILL ANY GUARANTEE BE GIVEN?

2) PADILLA NERVO (MEXICO) WAS EMPHATIC IN STATING THAT CASTRO MUST NOT BE PERMITTED TO UPSET US/USSR AGREEMENT ON VERIFICATION. OBJECT OF US/OAS ACTION WAS TO BRING ABOUT REMOVAL OF THREAT OF OFFENSIVE WEAPONS IN CUBA. US/USSR AGREEMENT CALLS FOR VERIFICATION. THEREFORE, HE SAID, CASTRO MUST NOT BE ALLOWED "UNILATERALL TO UPSET THIS AGREEMENT WHICH IS NECESSARY TO ACHIEVEMENT OF US/C PURPOSE. CLEAR IMPLICATION OF PADILLA NERVO'S REMARKS WAS

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THAT SOME MEANS MUST BE FOUND TO PREVENT CASTRO FROM UPSETTING A CONDITION SO VITAL AS VERIFICATION, PRESUMABLY BY OAS ACTION IF NECESSARY.

3) SCHWEITZER (CHILE) EXPRESSED FULL AGREEMENT WITH US VIEW THAT NO SC MTG NEEDED FOR PRESENT. SAID ALSO THAT SHOULD CUBA SEEK TO INJECT FIVE CONDITIONS AT TIME OF SC MTG, THESE SHOULD BE REJECTED INSOFAR AS CONSIDERATION IN CONTEXT OF SC MTG ON OFFENSIVE WEAPONS IS CONCERNED. AFTER MTG, SCHWEITZER INFORMED STEVENSON THAT HIS GOVT IS NOW CONSIDERING WHETHER TO BREAK RELATIONS WITH CUBA.

4) THERE WAS ALSO CONCERN RE EXTENT TO WHICH AERIAL RECONNAISSANCE WILL BE CONTINUED AS MEANS GUARD AGAINST REINTRODUCTION OFFENSIVE WEAPONS IN FUTURE. LAS APPARENTLY WANT ASSURANCES AS TO FUTURE SECURITY AND NO REINTRODUCTION OF WEAPONS.

5) FOL MTG SANTOS MUNOS (ARGENTINA) ASKED TO SEE STEVENSON PRIVATELY ON INSTRUCTIONS. ARGENTINE GOVT'S CONCERN, HE SAID, WAS SAME AS INDICATED IN 1) ABOVE; I.E., EXTENT TO WHICH CUBA COULD EMERGE PROTECTED BY NO INVASION GUARANTEE. HE LATER TOLD MISSION OFFICER THAT ARGENTINE GOVT, HAVING UPSET PREVIOUS GOVT "FOR BEING TOO CLOSE TO COMMUNISM", WOULD FIND IT POLITICALLY "MOST DIFFICULT" TO ACCEPT ANY GUARANTEE OF CASTRO. FOR COUNTRIES NEARER TO CUBA PROBLEM WILL BE ONE OF SECURITY AND DEFENSE, HE SAID, WHILE FOR ARGENTINA IT IS POLITICAL.

6) VOLIO (COSTA RICA) TOLD MISSION OFFICER AFTER MTG THAT HE IS RECEIVING "MANY EXPRESSIONS OF CONCERN" FROM COSTA RICA RE STATUS OF CASTRO AFTER OFFENSIVE WEAPONS ARE REMOVED AND NATURE OF SECURITY GUARANTEES FOR COUNTRIES NEAR CUBA.

7) SOSA RODRIGUEZ (VENEZUELA) SAID HE UNDERSTANDS US GUARANTEE AND COMMITMENT TO LIFT BLOCKADE TO BE "CONDITIONED TO ON-SITE INSPECTION".

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INSPECTION". IF NO ON-SITE INSPECTION IS PERMITTED, HE SAID, THERE WOULD BE NO OBLIGATION TO GIVE GUARANTEE OR LIFT BLOCKADE. SOSA ALSO EXPRESSED HIS GOVT'S CONCERN THAT CUBA SHOULD NOT EMERGE STRONGER AS A "GUARANTEED COMMUNIST STATE IN THIS HEMISPHERE." WE SHOULD BE "VERY CAREFUL ABOUT GUARANTEES", HE SAID. "WE CANNOT ACCEPT PRESENT INTERFERENCE" SUCH AS "SABOTAGE OF VENEZUELAN INSTALLATIONS".

STEVENSON

KEA

NOTE: PASSED WHITE HOUSE 10:20 PM, 11-5-62.

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